

Last night, Congress passed historic health insurance reform that will make coverage more affordable and secure for those with insurance, extend coverage for those without insurance, and hold insurance companies accountable.

Health insurance reform stops insurance companies from denying people for pre-existing conditions. It provides more choice. It lowers costs and [reduces our deficit by \\$1.3 trillion](#) . It stops insurance companies from dropping people who are sick. It helps small businesses by giving them tax credits. It helps

[seniors](#)

by making prescription drugs more affordable and strengthening Medicare. That's why it's [endorsed by AARP](#).

In New Mexico's [3rd Congressional District](#) , health insurance reform will:

- Improve coverage for 327,000 residents with health insurance.
- Give tax credits and other assistance to up to 163,000 families and 14,100 small businesses to help them afford coverage.
- Improve Medicare for 94,000 beneficiaries, including closing the donut hole.
- Extend coverage to 115,500 uninsured residents.
- Guarantees that 19,400 residents with pre-existing conditions can obtain coverage.

While this legislation does not solve every problem facing our health insurance system, it does make important steps toward reforming our broken health insurance system, and I'm proud that we were able to pass legislation that will put the people of New Mexico ahead of health insurance companies.

In the past year, I have visited communities throughout New Mexico's 3rd Congressional District and sought input from constituents, small business owners, doctors, nurses, health care professionals, patients and policy experts. I know there are strong opinions on both sides of this debate, and I look forward to continuing a conversation with the people of New Mexico's 3rd District.

Thank you for your time. Please do not hesitate to contact my office if you believe my office can help you with a federal agency or any other issue. I also encourage you to contact my office with any questions or opinions you may have.

Sincerely,

Ben Ray Luján